

THE 508/1061
HISTORY

OF

Colonel *Francis Ch-rtr-s.*

CONTAINING

The Birth, Parentage, Education, Rise,
Progress, and most memorable Exploits of
that Great Man, down to his Present Cata-
strophe in Newgate.

Collected from the most authentick Accounts of Gentlemen
who have been intimately acquainted with him, and his
TRANSACTIONS.

The Second Edition.

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It is a Misfortune common to all Great Men, that upon any Casualty that befalls them, they are constantly murder'd by a Pack of Scriblers, who write themselves into a Dinner at their Cost, without any Regard to Truth or even common Decency; such was the Fate of *Louis le Grand*; such that of the *Marquis Paleotti*; and such is now that of *Colonel Francis Ch-rtr-s.*

This last unhappy Gentleman, the Subject of the following Sheets, has already been brought upon the Stage under the several Titles of *The Life of Colonel Don Francisco*, and *Authentick Memoirs of Colonel Ch-tr-s, Rape-Master-General of Great-Britain*; in both of which, but especially the last, besides a great deal of bad *English*, and yet worse Spelling, abundance of Stories are father'd on him, wherein he had no more Concern than the *Grand Turk*, and which have no more Truth than the *Alcoran*; for Instance, 'tis said in the *Memoirs*, that *Shrimpton* should swear if he did not give him a Guinea to drink; he would take the Right-hand of him in the Cart; whereas he has been so ill both before and since his Tryal, as to be hardly able to speak; and likewise that *Roger Johnson* should desire the Honour of making him a Visit, and entertain'd him with a Catch of his own composing; when *Johnson* himself has own'd, that he never was near the Colonel since his first Entrance into *Newgate*; not to mention the notorious Lye of his constituting *Mr. Woolston* his Chaplain, and a hundred other Falshoods and Inconsistencies, and *Billinggate* Expressions, too fulsome and gross to be repeated. He will no doubt be again introduced under many other Characters, unless he is rescued from their merciless



clefs Paws by some Hand capable of doing him justice.

But as this is a large Work, which will require some time, and is not to be carried on without great Expence, it being propos'd to be done by Subscription in two Volumes in Folio; we have, to satisfy the Curiosity of the Publick, who will not have Patience to wait the finishing such an Undertaking, publish'd these few Sheets as an Amusement, just as Mariners throw out an empty Barrel to a Whale to keep him in play, lest having nothing to employ him he should fall foul on the Ship; and we will as near as possible insert nothing but what is genuine and Matter of Fact, and what we have from Persons of Credit and Reputation, who have long been acquainted with the Colonel, and his most remarkable Transactions.

To begin then: He was born in *East-Louthian*, in the Year 1666. of good creditable Parents. His Father, who was a private Gentleman of a moderate Fortune, took care to give him a liberal Education, as most *Scots* Gentry do; but his Son, whose Genius lay quite another Way, made no great Progress in his Learning, tho' he was an admirable Proficient in the Art of *Legerdemain*, and all manner of roguish Pranks. Wherefore when he came to

Years of Maturity he was enter'd in the Army, and serv'd in *Flanders* as a Cadet in a Regiment of Foot, then commanded by Colonel *Hodges*, where he had not been very long before he was forced to run the Gantlope thro' the whole Corps, for making too bold with a Pair of Breeches, which he took from under the Head of a *Scotch Baronet*; who was then an Officer in the same Regiment, and has now a Pension from the Government. Not liking that Treatment, he left them, and serv'd afterwards under Colonel *Brewer* in the same Capacity; but his Behaviour there was so irregular and scandalous, that he could not obtain any Promotion; wherefore he return'd to his Father, who not quite despairing as yet of his Amendment, procured him an Ensign's Commission in the Third Regiment of Foot-Guards, then commanded by Major-General *Ramsay*. Here he again displayed himself, tho' not much to his Advantage; for being intrusted with three Months Pay advance, and Money to raise Recruits, he was sent to *England*, where instead of putting it to the destin'd Use, he thought it proper to try his Fortune at Gaming; and in one Night play'd it all away with a Brother Officer, in his Passage.

What should he do in this dreadful *Dilemma*; return to the Regiment he durst not, without Men or Money; go on his Errand he could not, for how should he bear his Expences without a Farthing: This put him upon thinking; and his fruitful Imagination soon furnished him with an Expedient which, as it was the first, I believe it was the best Thought he ever had in his Life, at least upon such an Emergency.

Being landed out of the Packet at *Harwich*, he enquired for the best Inn in the Town, which, to the Landlord's Cost, he soon found, those People being always ready when Sloops come in to seize upon the Passengers.

On his Entrance there, Landlord, *said* bet, "What you have got in the House that's nice," "for I love to live well upon the Road, no matter what it costs?" Sir, *reply'd the Landlord*, "I have every Thing the Town affords; you may have what you please." Well then, *says the Colonel*, "Let me have a Dish of Fish, and a couple of Fowls; and, Landlord, because I am alone, I desire your Company, and a Glas of *French* Wine, such as you drink yourself; so shew me to my Chamber, and make a very good Fire." So *said*, so done; away goes mine Host, with the Colonel, into a handsome Chamber, where soon after

after a noble Supper was brought in, accompany'd with several Bottles of the best *French* Claret. The Guest seem'd very well pleas'd with this Entertainment, especially the Wine, which he found so very good, that he call'd for some nine Bottles, whereof he likewise pray'd the Master of the House to partake, and said he would afterwards go to rest, being to pursue his Journey next Day to *London*. Accordingly the Wine being empty'd, the Landlord took his Leave, and bid his Guest good Night, who lock'd the Door after him, as if going immediately to Bed. But no sooner was the poor innocent Man and his Family quiet, but the Colonel pull'd off his Breeches, and laying them on the Fire, waited till they were quite consum'd, which done, he unlock'd the Door softly, and went to sleep. Next Morning a Servant coming to call him, as he had order'd, to set out for *London*, found the Door half open; whereupon the Colonel pretending to be surpriz'd, started up, and feigning to look for his Breeches, swore he had been robb'd, and lost upwards of Sixty Pounds, besides his Watch, vowing he would make an Example of the House, for the Benefit of all Gentlemen who should happen to pass that Way for the future. The Inn-keeper hearing such an Uproar, came

up, and being informed of the Colonel's pretended Loss, was very much astonish'd, but much more, when he heard his Threats to ruin him for harbouring Thieves to rob his Guests in their Sleep. Wherefore being afraid some of his Servants might be guilty, tho' unknown to him, and that the Credit of his House would be blasted thereby, and his Family undone, he agreed to make the Colonel Compensation for his Damage, provided he would make no mention of it, which he accordingly promis'd. Of this heroick Exploit he has often boasted, as his Master-piece; and he was as proud of it as ever the greatest General was of a Stratagem whereby he had gain'd a Victory; ~~tho'~~ indeed he added, that when he had recruited he return'd that Way, and reimburs'd the Landlord with Interest; which I leave every one who knows him, or his Character, to believe, or disbelieve, like the *Apocrypha*.

The being thus put to his Trumps might, one would have thought, have cured the Colonel of his Itch of Gaming; but quite the contrary, he follow'd it more than ever; however, Fortune was not always so adverse to him, but proved so very favourable, that what with her Assistance, and what with the Help of a little *Legerdemain*, whereof he was an admirable

Master, he won vast Sums; by the means whereof, and by his having contracted an Acquaintance with some Noblemen at Gaming-Tables and Horse-Races, he obtain'd the Post of an Exempt in the Life-Guards, and found himself in a Condition to pretend to a Daughter of *Pencaitland*, then one of the Lords of Session in Scotland, a Woman of Fortune and Family, whom he accordingly marry'd in the Year 1702, and who is still living, together with a Daughter he had by her, who is Lady to the Earl of *W.-ms*, a Nobleman of very great Honour. As for his Wife, she long bore his scandalous Debaucheries and inhuman Usage with exemplary Patience; but being at last quite weary'd out, she has at length left him to his Evil Genius, and lives separate from him at *Edinburgh*.

By this time the Colonel had amass'd a very considerable Fortune, and purchas'd several fine Estates, some of them of the D. of *Wh.-rt-n*. As he was going to visit one of these new Purchases, he happen'd to lye one Night upon the Road at an Inn where the Servant who attended him was mightily to his Taste, and pleas'd his Fancy so much, that he made love to her very warmly, that is to say, *a-la-mode de Ch.-rtr-s*, for he came immediately to the Point, and offer'd

fer'd her a Guinea if she would be his Beafellow
 that Night, and make him happy in her Em-
 braces. The Girl gave him at firft a Repulfe,
 and flood upon her Character and Reputation;
 but not being able long to refift the Temptation
 of the Guinea, which was a great Sum in that
 Country, for it was in the North, ſhe at laſt
 contented to his Deſires; and accordingly at
 Night, when all was quiet in the Inn, ſhe ſtole
 into his Room, and ſtay'd with him till towards
 Day-break, when ſhe was oblig'd to retire. In
 the Morning, when the Colonel got up, he
 call'd for his Reckoning, which being brought
 by the Landlord, he ask'd where the Maid was
 who waited on him the Night before; the Inn-
 keeper deſiring to know what he wanted with
 her, *Why*, ſays the Colonel, *I ſent her to change*
a Guinea, and ſhe has neither brought me that,
nor the Silver. The Wench being accordingly
 call'd, *Sweetheart*, crys the Colonel, *where is*
my Change out of the Guinea I gave you? The
 Maid, quite confounded, bluſh'd, and dropping
 a Curtely, reply'd, *Here is your Guinea, Sir,*
but I could not get it chang'd; and accordingly
 return'd it to ſave her Credit. But the Colonel,
 who never loves to do things by Halves, and no
 ſooner ſecur'd the Money, but he told the Inn-

keeper the whole Story, and exposed the Wench so that she was forced to leave the Country.

This glorious Exploit however was of great Disservice to the Colonel, and did him vast Prejudice in his Amours in those Parts; insomuch, that when the Fancy once took him to stand Candidate for Member of Parliament for the Borough of *Lancaster*, he could hardly get a Lodging in the whole Town; and when at last with much ado he did find one, not a Woman would appear, or come near him, but all avoided him like the Plague, so that he was forced to have so much as his Bed warm'd by his own Servants, which was no little Mortification to a Man of the Colonel's amorous Disposition.

I have often heard it said, that the Way for a Man to become rich, is to put a due Value upon Money, be it never so little, and to play a small Game rather than stand out; that the Colonel is entirely Master of this prudent Maxim, the following Story will evince. The Colonel had long had his Eye upon a certain Gentleman of Fortune, who us'd to frequent *White's*, and other publick Places to which the Colonel resorted, imagining he would make a very pretty Bubble, if he could but once get him into his Company; which he accordingly often attempted, but

but could never draw him in to play, which was his Design. At last, being inform'd that this Gentleman had a fine Country-Seat not far from one of his, he often press'd him earnestly to call at his House in his way thither, and take a Dinner with him; to which, after many Invitations, he at last consented. Dinner being over, the Colonel propos'd Cards to pass away Time, which the Gentleman, being upon his Guard, refus'd, and would have pursued his Journey home; but the Colonel told him positively, he would not take it for a Visit unless he stay'd till Supper, and that 'twas in vain to make himself uneasy, for he had order'd the Stable Doors to be lock'd, and he could not get at his Horses. Well, he was forced to have Patience, since there was no other Remedy; and accordingly waited till Supper, tho' with some Reluctance, which was as handsome as the Dinner; and the Glass flying about merrily, the Colonel ply'd the Gentleman so warmly, that he was forced to take up his Quarters there that Night. Hereupon a Bed was prepared for him in a handsome Chamber, to which the Colonel accompanied him, and after asking him if he would have any Wine or Ale set by his Bed-side, and wishing him good Repose, took his leave.

All being retir'd, the Gentleman undress'd himself very leisurely, ruminating upon the Transactions of that Day, and the Colonel's Behaviour; which done, he was just going to step into Bed; but how great was his Surprize when on undrawing the Curtains he found a Woman in the Bed, who seem'd in a profound Sleep. At first he imagin'd he had mistaken the Chamber, but then recollecting that the Colonel himself shew'd it him, he found the fair One was design'd to complete his Entertainment; whereupon he at last got into Bed. What pass'd there, I leave to the Reader's Imagination, and shall only say, that towards Morning the Gentleman made her a Present of five Guineas for Services done, after which, he falling asleep, she got up and stole away.

Some little time after, the Gentleman being impatient to be at home, arose, and went down Stairs, but could find no body stirring but a dirty Wench in one of the Rooms, who was scouring the Irons. Of her he enquir'd the way to the Stables, to which she directed him, but said at the same time, she believ'd none of the Servants were up. Accordingly he went thither, and found it so; whereupon he came back, and taking several Turns about the Room where the Girl was, ask'd her some Questions; to which she

the making answer, he imagin'd he knew the Tone of her Voice, which moving his Curiosity, he strove to get a View of her Face, which she endeavour'd as much as possible to hide; but at last he did get a glimpse (of her, sufficient to) satisfy him that she was the very fair One with whom he had pass'd the Night so agreeably, and to whom he had given the five Guineas, tho' she was now transform'd into a perfect Cinder-Wench. Thunder-struck and amaz'd at the Sight, he ask'd her the Question, *Whether she had not been his Bedfellow the Night before?* which she not being able to deny; *How comes it then,* said he, *that I find you now scouring Irons?* *Did not I give you five Guineas?* Yes, Sir, reply'd she; and, I suppose, continued he, *that other Gentlemen, when you do them the same Favour as you did me, generally make you some Present?* Yes, Sir, cry'd she blushing, *but you don't know my Master. Not know your Master!* What do you mean, Child? says the Gentleman, *I think if you can get five Guineas so easily, you need not clean Irons.* Ah, Sir, says the poor Wench, *that's true, but I have but half a Crown for my Part, and the Colonel has the rest.*

But I forgot to take Notice, that before his Marriage with the Lady above-mention'd, he had

had the good Fortune to obtain a Lieutenant's Commission in a new rais'd Regiment, commanded by Colonel *Mac-gill*, which being afterwards disbanded at the Treaty of *Reswick*, he, (as I before observ'd) either by the assistance of his Money or Friends, obtain'd the Post of Exempt in the third Troop of Horse-Guards.

I will not pretend to assign the positive Reason of his disposing of that Commission, but that he did so is very certain; sometime after which being with Colonel *H-mes*, who had a Company in the Foot-Guards, he fell to Gaming, where his Fortune, or Skill prov'd so very favourable to him, that he not only won all the Colonel's ready Money, but likewise his Commission, whereby he was once more enter'd in the Army, and that with a more honourable Title than any he had yet born.

Being thus possess'd of a very beneficial Post, like a Man who understood the World very well, and lov'd to follow the Example of his Betters, he resolv'd to turn it to the best Advantage. Accordingly, as this good City of *London* is never without abundance of Gentry, whom either their Misfortunes or their Extravagance make glad to embrace any Shelter against their just Debts, he very freely insisted all who offer'd a good *Premium*, and were of the Standard,

Standard; conniving at their not doing Duty, provided they were punctual in their Payments; by which means he had not above One third part effective Men in his Company, the rest being what the military Gentlemen term *Faggots*. As by all these Arts he was enabled to make a handsome Figure, and paid his Tradesmen pretty tolerably for an Officer in the Army, he in some measure recover'd his Reputation, was look'd upon as a Man of Fortune, and for some time kept the best Company.

But as 'tis hardly possible for a Man to continue long in a Course of Knavery without being discover'd, so it far'd with the Colonel; who was at last jilted by Fortune, and forced to cry *Peccavi* before the *House of Commons*, for these his Frauds and Misdemeanours.

For having unadvisedly receiv'd one *Patrick H-ley* into his Company as a *Faggot*, who was at least as great a Master in all manner of fraudulent and indirect Practices as his Colonel, (no disparagement to the Capacity of Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*) he upon some Misunderstanding between them, was order'd by the Colonel to do his Duty, with which he was by no means willing to comply; and therefore absconding, the Colonel published him in the News-Papers as a Deserter, offering a Reward of twenty Guineas

Guineas to whoever should apprehend and bring him to Justice; swearing to use his utmost Endeavours to have him condemned by a Court-Martial, and executed accordingly.

In this Exigency *H-ley* not knowing what to do, and having received Intelligence that the Colonel had vow'd his Destruction, thought, that the best Way to secure himself would be to cry Rogue first, and lodge an Information against his Colonel before the *House of Commons*.

To this End having gain'd over one of the Serjeants to his Party, who was on some Account disgusted with Mr. *Ch-rtn-s*; and therefore willing to join in any Complaint against him, a Petition was drawn up and presented to some Members of the House, who being informed by the Serjeant that the Allegations contain'd therein were really Fact, and consequently that the Government was yearly defrauded of a considerable Sum, reported it to the House, and back'd it so strenuously, that it was not only resolv'd to protect *H-ley*, but to appoint a Committee to examine into this Matter, with Power to interrogate Witnesses, and send for Papers, Muster-Rolls, &c. Upon the whole; by *H-ley's* unwearied Diligence, and the assistance of the Serjeant, *honest Francis* was
fully

fully convicted, obliged to dispose of his Commission, and voted incapable of ever serving in the Army for the future.

The Colonel, as has been before hinted, had by his Address in Gaming, purchased several Seats, one of which, call'd *Hornby-Castle*, in *Lancashire*, was peculiarly devoted to the Service of the blind Deity *Cupid*, on whose Altar the Colonel is said to have offered up more Sacrifices than any Man in *Great-Britain*. Here Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*, like the *Grand Seignior*, had a *Seraglio*, which was kept in more than ordinary *Decorum*, under the Inspection of a venerable Matron, who was every Way equal to an Office, which, as some have said, requires as uncommon and extraordinary Talents, and no less Diligence and Application than that of a Minister of State. Long did this Votary of *Venus* maintain herself in this ticklish Post with an unblemish'd Character, and administer to her Master's Pleasures with consummate Applause; but at last, whether she incurr'd his high Displeasure by being superannuated and worn out in his Service, or by some Negligence, I cannot determine; but she was cashier'd, and reduced from a handsome Allowance for secret Services, to very great Necessity, which was certainly a very ungrateful Return for her past good Deeds.

As the Colonel had great Variety of Intrigues, it is no wonder if he sometimes met with such as cost him Sauce, as it did once in particular at *Epsom*; where, going under a fictitious Name, he agreed with a jolly agreeable Country Girl, who was Daughter to a Farmer in the Neighbourhood, to serve him in Quality of Chamber-maid. Accordingly the Wench pack'd up her Awls, and came to *London* to her new Master's, big with the Hopes of living very happily in a Town she had heard so much extoll'd, not being in the least apprehensive of a Snake in the Grass. But she had not been long at the Colonel's, before he began to ply her very warmly; and either by Sollicitations, Menaces or Bribes, brought her so far over to his Purpose, that she soon surrender'd her Fort, and was enlisted a Soldier under the Banner of *Venus*.

This, by some means or other, coming to the Ears of her Father, the poor Man being not only inform'd on all Sides of the Colonel's Character, but also that he had initiated his Daughter in a Mystery wherein he no Ways desir'd she should have been so well skill'd, quickly followed her up to *London*, and made Application to a Justice of the Peace for

for a Warrant to apprehend the Colonel for seducing his Daughter.

The Colonel being a Man of Fortune, the Magistrate thought proper to send him information of the Charge, before he issued out his Warrant (a Favour usually granted to Gentlemen of any Distinction). Mr. Ch-rtr-s being appriz'd of the Affair, as likewise that his Appearance was required to answer whatever might be alledged against him, thought it not worth his while to give his Attendance; whereupon a proper Warrant being issued out against him, and delivered into the Hands of a Constable to see it executed, he being reinforced by a Body of *Myrmidons*, brought him *Nolens volens* before the Justice.

Assoon as he appear'd, the poor Man prefer'd his Complaint, and enlarged very much upon the heinousness of seducing a young Virgin under a false Name, adding, that had the Colonel gone by his real one, his Character was so well known, that he would never have consented to his Daughter's setting Foot within his Door; and begging he might have what Compensation the Law would allow.

This done, the Colonel and the Justice withdrew into another Apartment, where they had not been long, but whatever Arguments the

Colonel used to bring him over to his Party, the Magistrate on his return advis'd him to make himself as easy as possible, alledging, that the Colonel, being a Man of a great Estate and Interest, would overpower him if he should commence a Suit against him; and that therefore he had better sit down contented with the first Loss, and not expose his Daughter any farther, since she having been consenting he could recover no great Damages. But all these Arguments not moving the Farmer, the Justice was forced to bind the Colonel over to the Sessions. 'Tis said a Prosecution was resolv'd on; to avoid which the Colonel was glad to come to a Composition, which, as is reported, amounted to some hundred Pounds, including what the Magistrate had for his good Offices.

Not long after this, he took Lodgings in St. James's Parish, at the House of one Mr. *M-r-t-n*, where he had the Misfortune (as all honest Men may be bely'd) to have two Bastard Children laid to his Charge, which very much enrag'd him. From the first of these he got off pretty easily, by compounding with the Church-Wardens, having had some Hints given him previously of the approaching Danger; but as for the other, whereof he was not at all appriz'd, it being more dextrously managed, she being
Cook,

Cook, and perhaps Favourite to a Nobleman, and having very good Friends, obtain'd a Warrant secretly from a Justice, which was deliver'd to a Constable, on whom she could depend; and the Colonel having no Notice before-hand, it was serv'd upon him unawares. Hereupon Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*, like a very *Hector* of *Troy*, drew his dreadful Weapon, and made a Pass at the Officer, which he, in imitation of the sly *Grecian Achilles*, warily avoiding, knock'd him down with his short Staff, and after breaking his Head very handsomely, to the Colonel's great Terror, overpower'd him with his *Posse* of *Myrmidons*, as the Butchers do a mad Ox, and led him in Triumph before the Justice, who made him, before he got loose, very glad to pay a good Composition for his unlawful Embraces, in *Terrorem* of all Whore-Masters for the future, who should dare to kiss a pretty Girl without the Consent of the Church.

As to the Colonel's Courage, it has been disputed very strenuously on all Sides, some having allow'd him a Man of consummate Bravery, and others reporting him a mere Coward; but upon summing up the Evidence on both Sides, the most favourable Verdict we can possibly bring in, is, that his Courage has been discretionary, and like a well-bred Spaniel under Command, he
having

having both given and receiv'd Kicks according as he shew'd Occasion, that is to say, according as he lik'd his Men. w^{ch} Innumerable are the Instances which might be given of this, the Colonel's half passive, half active Behaviour; however, a few Examples shall suffice for the present.

Some Years ago Mr. *Chartres*, being in the heat of Gaming, happen'd to have a Dispute with an Officer in the Army at the *Groom-Porter's*; whereupon Words ensuing not fit for Gentlemen of that Cloth to bear, Satisfaction was demanded, which the Colonel accordingly agreed to give his Antagonist near *Marybone*. As both the Combatants were Men of the greatest Discretion, and such consummate Generals that they knew exactly how to make the utmost of the least Advantage, a great many Arguments arose about choosing the Ground, the Sun shining very clearly that Day, so that one of them must have had it full in his Eyes. As they were both Men of the nicest Honour, neither would yield one tittle to his Adversary, wherefore a long Debate ensued, and it was agreed to make it a drawn Battle, and receive each of them a slight Wound to save both their Credits. This, however, occasion'd a great Contest which should be the first Sufferer, and put them into a great Quandary, neither of

them

them being overland laboure willing to trust the
 other's Honour or Generosity; in short, this one
 Point had like to have quite broken off the
 whole Treaty.

At last the Colonel, being a Man of Expe-
 dients, swore. *God damn his Blood, did he
 think he was afraid of his Flesh, it was very
 well known he was a Man of Honour by God,
 and if he would not trust his Parole, he must
 even take his Chance, God damn him;* where-
 upon he made as if he was going to draw. This
 convincing Argument induced the other to sub-
 mit, who thereupon desired to have his Wound
 in the Sword-Arm, which he extending, accord-
 ingly; receiv'd a very severe one from Mr. Cha-
 rters, which put him to exquisite Anguish. The
 Pain being somewhat over, the Colonel's Anta-
 gonist, after complaining of his not being more
 favourable, desired he would name the Place
 where he would be scarify'd; to which he very
 prudently answer'd, no where; and bid him go
 and relate the Story if he durst, since it would
 involve them both in an equal Disgrace; ac-
 cordingly he judg'd aright, for his Adversary
 not daring to tell the Truth, the Colonel bragg'd
 that he had disarm'd him, and given him his
 Life.

However,

However, the Colonel's Character had been before so well known, that this Report gain'd just so much Credit as to make it believ'd, as it was a Composition between Mr. *Ch-rtr-s* and the Major, (for such he was) to save, what neither of them had, their Reputations. Of this all the World was soon convinced, for it was not long before *honest Frank*, being at a Hazard-Table, and having a Dispute with a Gentleman, since a Nobleman, who had already been a very great Bubble to him, and who he hop'd would prove yet better, the Spark thinking himself (as he really was) impos'd on, can'd him very handsomely, which Mr. *Ch-rtr-s* bore with a-bundance of Patience and Magnanimity; and being ask'd the Reason of so much Passive Obedience, reply'd, *Deel tauk me Mon but I'd tauk twice as much, before I'd lose such a gu'd Benefice.*

But another young *Toupee*, who had neither an Estate to lose, or any Reputation for Valour, thinking he might as well trespass upon the Colonel's Patience as the other, and that because he had endured a Caning from Beau G——, he might from him, thought proper to make him the first Experiment of his Valour, and fledge his Maiden Courage upon him; whereupon he pick'd a Quarrel with Mr. *Ch-rtr-s* in publick Company,

Company, and proceeded so far as to strike him; but the Colonel, who, as I before observ'd, understood the World, and knew his Men very well, not only return'd the Stroke, but oblig'd the Youngster to ask him pardon, adding, with an Oath, that tho' he could take a Kick or Cuff upon Occasion from a Fool of Quality or Fortune, he was not obliged to do so by every Scoundrel.

Many others were the Quarrels wherein the Colonel's captious Disposition involv'd him; from most of which he was forced to extricate himself, either by undergoing the Discipline of the Canie or Foot, or, which was a great Favour, by asking Pardon. However, he was once drawn into a very unlucky *Dilemma*; for a Dispute arising at a Tavern between him and another Gentleman, very opprobrious Language was given on both Sides, which came at last to that height, that 'twas declared by the rest of the Company, that nothing but an honourable Decision on one Side or the other could be a sufficient Satisfaction; and that consequently whoever of the two should refuse giving it to the other, ought not to be admitted into any Man of Honour's Company. This Sentence pass'd, they all withdrew, and left the Parties concern'd to proceed, knowing, as 'twas suppo-

sed, very well what would be the Issue of the Affair, and being resolved that the Colonel should either be exposed or suffer: For which the Colonel wish'd both them, and all Men of such nice Honour, heartily damn'd.

Well, however there is no avoiding Fate; wherefore the Colonel resolved for once to put such a Constraint upon his Courage as to lug out; (his Adversary's Sword having been long drawn) which was no sooner done, and the Door fasten'd on the Inside, but the other push'd upon him so vigorously, that the Colonel thought his last fatal Period was really come, and retreated more nimbly than the other could follow. Wherefore he called out to the Colonel, and told him, that if he did not intend to be an eternal Laughing-Stock, he must advance, and let him feel his Sword, for he was sure there were those planted at the Door who would expose him to the last Degree. Hereupon the Colonel coming a little forwards, was slightly wounded in the Belly; whereat being very much terrify'd, he dropp'd his Sword, begg'd Pardon, and swore, *Deel tauk me for a F—l, this came by following my Enemy's Advice.*

Being in the late Reign Deputy-Lieutenant for the Dutchy of Lancaster, about the time of the Rebellion at Preston, he thought, like a wise Man

Man, it was best to play a sure Card; and accordingly offered his Service on both Sides, that let who will sink he at least might swim: By which means he was judg'd so insignificant, that neither would set any Stress upon him. However, as the Times were then very ticklish, insomuch that it was not judged proper to disoblige any One, and the Colonel was supposed to have some Interest in Scotland, it was thought proper to indulge him so far, that, upon his declaring he had suffer'd considerable Damage by the seizure and carrying off above thirty of his Horses, he should indemnify himself, by taking as many more of his own choosing from amongst those of the Rebels.

One Night he happened to be at a Hazard Table, in Company with several Persons of the first Rank, who having some Suspicion of his not playing like a Man of Honour, very narrowly watch'd all his Motions, insomuch that they caught him in the very Fact of palming false Dice upon them. Being enraged at such rascally Usage, they resolv'd to make him refund, or else swore he should go through the Discipline of Blanket and Horse-Pond, besides a very good Bastinado. The Colonel very prudently consider'd, that if two to one was odds, ten to one was yet more: Wherefore he

very prudently acquiesced, and reimbursed them of his clandestine Depredations. But his incensed and inexorable Prosecutors, not content with this Punishment, obliged him to turn *errant Adamite*, and strip into *puris Naturalibus*, which, it being then the Depth of the Winter, and freezing very hard, was a severe Chastisement to a Man who had used himself to the utmost Delicacy and Luxury. At last being pinch'd to the last Degree with the intense Cold of the Night, and no longer able to endure the Pain, he vented his Complaints in the most pathetick Manner, till Nature at length coming to his assistance, put him in mind of a very salutary Stratagem, whereby he extricated himself from this perplexing Difficulty.

The Case was this: He had been confin'd so long, till his Posteriors gave him to know, that whatever Authority his Companions had to imprison him, their Power could not extend to them; that therefore if they would not give them liberty by fair means, they must obtain it *quoquo pacto*, and force their Discharge. This Message having been secretly delivered to Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*, he reported it to the Committee then sitting, but without being able to move them to any Commiseration. Whereupon finding it was

was to no Effect, and that he must have recourse to the *dernier Resort*: Well, cries he, *since it must be so, a clear Stage and no Favour*; and accordingly, turning up his blind Cheeks to the open Air, he let fly such a Volley of Ordure, as obliged them by the Stench precipitately to break up the Siege, and leave him Master of the Field of Battle.

The Colonel another time, tho' he did not meet with such ill Luck in one respect, was almost as unfortunate in another. For having won a considerable Sum of Money at *New-Market*, being apprehensive (as he had very great reason) that all Men were not so honest as they should be, he converted it into Bank Bills, which not being willing to intrust with any One, he secured them in the Bottom of his Jack Boots, designing to bring them by that means safe to Town on Horseback. But mark the End of all this precaution; not being able to bear the Fatigue of riding too hard, by reason of his Corpulency, he was obliged to take up his Lodging at *Bishop-Stortford*, when, pulling off his Boots to see if his Bills were safe, he found them entirely spoiled so as not to be legible, occasioned by the Sweat of his Feet.

He had another time a Bastard father'd upon him by one of his own Country-women, who not having been above two Months in London, and being found to be far gone with Child, was obliged by the Parliam to name the Person who had begotten it. Accordingly, being brought before a Magistrate, she swore it to Colonel Ch-rtr-s, whereof he being inform'd, denied his having ever known her, with the most solemn Imprecations; and persevering in such Asseverations, it was believed by many, and amongst the rest the Justice, that he might be innocent, and that it was only the artifice of an impudent Woman, to extort Money from him. Hereupon it was resolved to put her to the trial whether she knew the Colonel when in Company with other Gentlemen; accordingly the Experiment was made, and the Woman call'd in when several Gentlemen were in the Room, some as corpulent as the Colonel. But no sooner did the Woman enter the Room, and set her Eyes upon Mr. Ch-rtr-s; but being required to find out the Father of her Child, she immediately flew to the Colonel, and swore she knew him by Signs and Tokens not proper to mention.

Once as he was passing in his Chariot near St. James's, he happen'd to cast his Eye upon a Woman

Woman who very much pleased his Fancy, tho' in a very mean Habit, and meaner Occupation, viz. crying old Clothes. Whereupon ordering the Chariot to stop, he call'd the Footman from behind (who had often acquitted himself very well of such Commissions) and gave him Directions to decy her by any means into some Publick House thereabouts, and then give him Notice. Accordingly the obedient Servant, under Pretence of having a great many Suits of his Master's to sell, prevail'd on her to go into the *Scotch Arms in Pall-Mall*.

This done, he gave his Master Information, who was not long before he came in at the Back-Door, and scrap'd Acquaintance with his Footman (as had been agreed between them) after which, he sat down in Company, and personating a *Valet de Chambre*, told the Woman, that since she bought old Clothes, he had likewise several Suits to sell, and if she would go into another Room, he would send for them; not being willing to shew them before every body. So said, so done: the Woman and he retir'd, but had not been long together before the House was alarm'd with the Out-cry of, *Help, Help; Murder, Murder*. Upon this Noise the Landlord went into the Room, where he found the Colonel with more Weapons than one drawn, and

and the Woman quite spent in defending herself to the utmost. Whereupon the Colonel declar'd, *That had he thought her Fort had been so impregnable, he would not have lost so much time about it.* However he did not escape Scot-free, for the Woman being married, and having made Complaint of the Insult to her Husband, Mr. Ch-rch was glad to come down, as the Mob call it, with a Purse of Guineas.

Falling once into Company with two very pretty Women, he immediately formed a Design upon them; neither did he desist when he understood they were both Sisters; but swore, *Deel tauk me Mon, if the rest of the Generation was as handsome, he would lye with the whole Family.* Accordingly, pretending to want Upper Servants, he hir'd them both; which done, he left no Stone unturn'd till he seduced them; after which, in Process of Time growing weary, he threaten'd to discard them. But they conferring Notes together, and being pretty acute Gypsies, managed Matters so well, that before they parted, they oblig'd the Colonel to give them a very comfortable Subsistence, whereon they live very handsomely, not far from *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, to this very Hour.

Had the Colonel been oblig'd to give a decent Maintenance to all the Bastards he had deserv'd

to have laid to his Charge, and all that were really father'd on him, 'tis a Question whether his whole Estate, large as it is, would have been sufficient.

Amongst the rest, one *Sarah Salleto*, a raw Country Girl, being inveigled into his Service by one of the Devil's Purveyors, whom the Colonel kept in constant Pay, had not been long with her honest Master *Francis* before he began not only to solicit her very earnestly to conform to his Desires, but even told her point blank, *he must and would lye with her, ay by G-d would be.* The Wench surpriz'd and frighten'd at such an abrupt Declaration, fell on her Knees, and begg'd he would not ruin her; to which the Colonel answer'd, *No, no, my Dear, I don't design to ruin you, but I'll make a Woman of you, and show you how your Minny did when your Daddy got you.* All these Arguments not prevailing on the poor Girl, he had recourse to what *Louis le Grand* call'd the *Ratio ultima Regum*, and pulling out a Pistol, clapp'd it to her Breast, vowing he would kill her if she did not comply instantly; whereupon she begg'd a little Respite to consider, which being granted till Night, and care taken that she should not escape, he renew'd his Suit; and Intreaties not prevailing, had again recourse to the same Argument,

gument, the Pistol, which he not only held to her Breast till he was got into her Bed, but even till he had accomplished his Desires. The Fruits of this, and his Embraces afterwards, was, that she prov'd with Child, for which Mr. *Ch-rtr-s* was forced to provide.

One of the most unlucky Affairs that ever befel the Colonel, which ought, one would have thought, to have made him take Warning, was his meeting with the Wife of a Miller of *Musselburgh*, on the Road near *Edinburgh*. This Woman, who was a jolly likely Dame, and of the Colonel's size, (for he lov'd Strap-pers) was carrying a Sack of Corn which her Husband had just ground, to one of his best Customers. But meeting unfortunately with Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*, who happened then to have kept a long Fast, he (having first sent his Servants before him) began to attack her very vigorously, and Words being of no Effect, drew out a large Purse of Gold, and offer'd it her if she would gratify his Desires. This nevertheless not succeeding, the Colonel dismounted, and had recourse to his *dernier Resort*, a Pistol, which presenting to the Woman's Head, he swore if she did not immediately lay down her Sack, and afterwards lie down herself upon it, he would end her Days upon the Spot.

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In this Extremity the good Dame thought it was best of two Evils to choose the least; and since she must suffer by one of the Colonel's Weapons, to take that which, in all probability, would not be mortal; accordingly, to save her Life, she submitted, and gave Mr. Chetwicks full Satisfaction. But no sooner did she get home, than she acquainted her Husband with the whole Affair, who not being willing, as many are, to put his Horns in his Pocket, cited the Colonel before the supream Court of Judicature for a Rape, which being positively sworn by the injured Woman, and the Colonel not thinking it safe to appear, he was formally condemned according to the Laws of *North Britain*. Hereupon he was forced to fly to *London*, as a sure Place of Refuge; neither durst he ever return to *Scotland*, till his late Majesty having the Case represented to him in a very favourable Light, thought fit to grant him his most gracious Pardon; which being presented to him on *New-Year's Day*, in the Year 1722. was justly deem'd by him the best *New-Year's Gift* he ever receiv'd in his Life.

He did not come off much better with a Parson's Daughter, whom he hir'd on pretence of waiting on his Lady, tho' she, poor Woman,

was at that very time some Hundred Miles distant. This young Maiden had not been long in his House before the Colonel ordered her up Stairs, and throwing her upon a Couch, pulls up her Coats sans Ceremonie, and was going immediately to board her; but she vigorously resisting, the Colonel found he could not accomplish his Desires without farther Assistance; wherefore he had again recourse to his old Remedy, a Pistol, which he held to her Breast, swearing with the most bitter Execrations, that he would instantly dispatch her if she would not consent to his enjoying her. The young Woman, being no ways daunted, said to him with great Presence of Mind, *I thought, Sir, that Gentlemen had more prevailing Arguments than Pistols, when they would make a Conquest of any of our Sex. Fye, never let it be said that Colonel Ch-tr-r-s was forced to take such Arms to vanquish a weak Woman; for Shame lay it down, and use a more manly Weapon. That I can soon do, Child,* reply'd he, shewing her (as the Song says) what I dare not name. *Well, Sir,* said she, *since I find you are bent upon my Ruin, 'tis in vain to strive, and what must be, must be; for I positively will never lose my Maidenhead but between a Pair of Sheets.*

The Colonel, very glad to find her so complying, and not in the least suspecting any Deceit, laid down his Pistol, and undressing in the greatest Hurry imaginable, soon got into Bed, expecting her to follow him: But no sooner was he safe lodged, than she snatch'd up the Pistol, and presenting it to him, cry'd out, *You Monster, not fit to live in the World, what hinders me now from sending you to the Devil, the Master you have so long served. I would now end your Days, but that I don't think it worth my while to defile myself with your Blood, and will still do it if you offer to stir or speak a Word.* This said, she rung the Bell, and as soon as the Servant, who was Confident of all his Villanies, came up, and had open'd the Door, she clapp'd the Pistol to his Breast, and vow'd, if he did not go down Stairs before her, and let her out, she would instantly dispatch him; by which means she made her Escape.

Not very long ago he had like to have fallen into an unlucky Broil; for his *Mercury*, alias *Pimp-General*, having seduced a young Woman into his Service, unknown to her Relations, her Sister, by some means or other, got Information where she was; and having heard a very scandalous Character of the Colonel,

lonel, she came to his House to give her Sister warning of him, and persuade her to quit his Service.

His trusty Emiffaries at first denied that any such Person was in the House; but this Answer not being satisfactory, and the Woman persisting in her Affirmation, which was corroborated by the Neighbours, an infinite Mob was immediately raised, who began to storm the Castle with Stones, Brickbats, and other such vulgar Ammunition, threatening to demolish it entirely if the young Woman was not incontinently produced. Hereupon *honest Francis* came to the Door, with intent to harangue the Populace; but was received with such a Volley of Shot, that he was soon forced to retire; and, in fine, tho' a whole *Posse* of Constables, Headboroughs, &c. came to keep the Peace, the Wench was at last forced to be brought forth, and make her personal Appearance; when being interrogated whether she would choose to abide with the Colonel, or go home with her Sister, she chose to remain with Mr. *Ch-rtr-s*; whereat her Sister, being very much ashamed and confounded, went away, and left the Colonel triumphant.

By this time the Colonel, by his Debauches and luxurious Living, had so far worn out his

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Constitution, that he thought proper to go to *Aix la Chapelle*, to try if those Waters would prop up his declining Carcase. But he had not been long there before, being willing to keep his Hands inured, that he might not be at a Loss for the future upon any Emergency, he contrived to bite Alderman *Child* of 5000 *l*. For having lodg'd about that Sum in the Alderman's Hands, he sent him a Letter of Advice that he intended to draw upon him for it. Accordingly, not long after, a Bill was sent over by a Stranger, whom Mr. *Ch-rtr-s* was well assured could not easily be found again, and was both accepted and paid; which done, the Colonel coming over not long after, went to the Alderman's, under pretence of settling Accounts, and finding this 5000 *l*. charg'd to him, swore he neither drew any such Bill, or sent any Letter of Advice, and that consequently he would not allow it, if there was any Law in *England*. However, for all this *Rhodomontade*, and the Colonel's coming frequently to the *Rainbow* Coffee-house in *Fleetstreet*, to bully and abuse Mr. *Child*, he was at last forced to compromise the Matter, by paying him both all the Money, and the Charges he had expended in prosecuting him for denying his own Hand-writing; besides which, it was left to Arbitration what farther

farther Satisfaction he should give the Alderman, for having so scandalously defam'd him.

Whilst these Things were in Agitation, the Colonel that he might not lye idle, sent out his Emissaries to provide him some fresh Game; amongst which, one of them, very unfortunately for Mr. Ch-rtr-s, falling into Company with one *Anne Bond*, a good likely young Woman, ask'd her if she wanted a good Service? To which she replying in the Affirmative; then says the good Woman, go along with me, I know a very honest Gentleman, one Colonel *Harvey*, and I don't doubt but I have Interest enough to get you the Place. The Girl very readily accepting the Offer, and thanking her for her Kindness, went with her to the Colonel's House in *George-Street* near *Hanover-Square*, where she sending up word to the Colonel, that she had brought him an industrious Girl, that would make him a good Servant; he, after asking a few trifling Questions, hired her for five Pounds a Year; which done, he order'd a Servant to fetch her Clothes from the Inn, and buy some Holland for shifting. On her Return the Colonel offer'd her the Holland, telling her, she should have a clean Shift every Day; but she modestly refus'd it, and answer'd, that

that she had already a sufficient number for any one in her Station.

She had not continued long with him before he made his Addressee to her; and in order to bring him to his Bow, presented her with a fine Snuff-Box, which she refus'd to accept, whereupon he told her, he only gave it her to keep for him, and that if she lost it, she must pay for it. Some time after she was inform'd by the Housekeeper that she must lye in her Master's Room, because he was very much indispos'd, wherefore she must lye with her in the Truckle-Bed. To this, after some Hesitation, she consented, on being assured that the Curtains were so close drawn about the Bed, that the Colonel could not see her undress. In the Night the Colonel order'd the Housekeeper to come to Bed to him, which she accordingly did, after which he call'd the Girl, but she would not comply, which very much incensed him, and made him swear execrably.

After this, finding no Arguments, not even Gold, would prevail on her, he resolv'd to have recourse to force; and accordingly on the Tenth of November, in the Morning, sending for her up into his Chamber, he fastened the Door, and throwing her suddenly upon a Couch, cramm'd his Night Cap into

her Mouth to prevent her crying out, and enjoy'd her *Nolens volens*; after which, she being inconsolable, and not to be pacify'd by any Arguments he cou'd use, took up a Horse-whip, and lash'd her very severely; then charging her with a Robbery, order'd her to be turn'd out of Doors.

About the Beginning of last *December*, a Bill was found against him at *Hick's Hall*, for an Attempt to ravish the said *Anne Bond*; which Bill was withdrawn, and another found against him for an actual Rape; her Council finding that her Evidence would amount to a full Proof thereof. Whereupon a Warrant was issued out against him by the Lord Chief Justice *Raymond*, and delivered into the Hands of Mr. *Chadwick Chambers*, his Lordship's Tipstaff, who was often, but in vain, in pursuit of him.

In the same Month the Colonel went over to *Flanders*, where the first News that was heard of him was from an Article in the *Brussels Gazette*, which being Matter of Fact, tho' inserted in that spurious Pamphlet, call'd, *Authentick Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Ch-rtr-s*, and almost the only Truth in it, we shall quote *verbatim*.

From the Bruffels Gazette.

Bruffels, Dec. 29, 1729. " Colonel Ch-tr-r-s, who has been so fortunate in his Time, that he is said to have won Ten Thousand Pounds *Sterling* a Year, was cured of the Drophy some Months ago by a Monk, and return'd to *England*, but is lately come over again, in search of one that lived with him, whom he accuses of stealing a Bill of Exchange, to the Amount of some Thousands of Pounds, and leaving a Forged Bill of Exchange in his Trunk in lieu of it; which the Colonel knew nothing of, till he went to the Banker's to receive his Money, and found that the true Bill was already paid to some other Person."

Another Letter from the same Place, dated December 30. says, " That Colonel Ch-tr-r-s arrived there the *Sunday* before in a Post-Berlin, making a great Noise in the Street: He went to visit a Noble *English* Lord, who has resided many Years there, but he would not see him. At *Ostend* the Colonel rode about the Streets in a strange unaccountable Manner, with a great Mob about him; and

“ did the like there on the great Market-Place :
 “ It being said his Business was, to confer with
 “ Mr. *Lenires* the Tapestry-Merchant, the
 “ Thing surpriz’d the whole City ; Mr. *Lenires*
 “ having always had the Reputation of a very
 “ honest Gentleman.”

Not long after the Colonel return’d to *London*, and kept himself private till the 25th of last *February*, when Mr. Councillor *Strange* mov’d the Court at the *Old Bailey*, that he might be permitted to surrender himself the next Day in order to take his Tryal. This being granted, he accordingly appear’d the next Day at the *Sessions-House* ; and after a Hearing of some Hours, was found guilty, convicted capitally, and confin’d in *Newgate*, in the same Room which had formerly been possess’d by Major *Oneby*. There he continued till the *Saturday* following, when being brought again down to the *Old Bailey*, he had Sentence of Death pronounced against him and nine other Criminals, which done, he was remanded back to the same Apartment.

The next Day, being *Sunday*, after Mr. *Guthrie*, the Ordinary, had been doing his Duty in the Chappel to the other condemn’d Malefactors, he came down and knock’d at the Colonel’s

Colonel's Chamber-Door, desiring admittance. This being granted, as soon as he enter'd the Room, Mr. *Cheris*, starting up in a hurry, put his Hand in his Pocket, and pulling out some Money, cry'd out, *What's your Fee, what's your Fee?* To which Mr. *Guthrie* replying that he demanded no Fee, but only came to wait on him, and to be Assistant to him, as it was his Duty to all Gentlemen in his unfortunate Circumstances. Then, says the Colonel, *if you don't want a Fee I don't want you; so pray go about your Business.*

The Colonel, since his Confinement, has been visited by several Persons of Distinction; and on *Tuesday* last he was, for the first time, permitted to walk out of his own Room to another upon the same Floor, belonging to Mr. *Castle*, one of the Gentlemen confin'd for a Design to assassinate King *William*.

As I forgot to mention it in its right Place, it will not be improper here to observe, that when the Colonel was at *Aix la Chapelle* about a Year ago, drinking the Waters for his Health, Abundance of Foreigners flock'd thither from all Parts to see so great and remarkable a Man. Amongst the rest, a certain German Count, who had a very handsome Equipage, had the Curiosity to come and view this Prodigy, for which

he

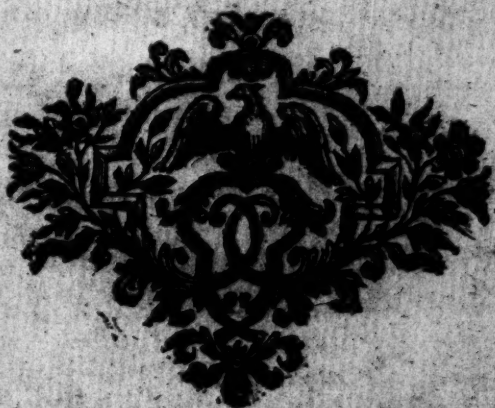
he paid full dear; for falling into Company with the Colonel, he was by him drawn in to play, wherein he had the Misfortune, not only to lose all his ready Money, but likewise a very fine *Berlin*, and a Set of Mares of *Flanders* Breed, with which the Colonel has since made a very great Figure in *England*, as Mr. *Morris*, the High-Bailiff of *Westminster*, in whose Possession they now are, may likewise do if he pleases.

As particular Care has been taken in this Performance to render it as exact and genuine as Time, and the best Informations possible, would permit: We hope the Publick, who have been so much imposed on by the several spurious Accounts already publish'd, will give the greater Encouragement, since no Pains nor Cost has been spared to make it perfect. And tho' there are many Stories about the Town, concerning this unfortunate Gentleman, which have an Air of Probability, and may possibly be true; yet we have chosen rather to omit them, than insert any thing but what we had from Persons of the greatest Credit and Reputation.

We have likewise endeavour'd, as much as in us lay, to avoid any Obscenity or gross Expressions, wherewith the other Accounts of the Colonel,

lonel, especially the *Memoirs*, abound ; not that if we had been inclin'd to have been merry, at the Expence of all Modesty and Decency, we could have been as witty as the best : We hope, therefore, that this will not be the worse approv'd for not being written in a *Billinggate* Stile.

F I N I S.



Colonel Francis Chav. 5

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